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EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

OWNED, CONTROLLED and PUBLISHED by AFL CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL of ALAMEDA COUNTY and BUILDING and CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL of ALAMEDA COUNTY

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OAKLAND
JULY 22, 1955
WEEKLY

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, JULY 22, 1955

SINGLE COPIES FIVE CENTS

All O's of BTC Reelected Without Opposition

REPORT To Our Readers - Owners

BUSINESS AGENTS

When the present writer was covering the labor beat for a daily newspaper, he would come back to the office late Friday evening from the San Francisco Labor Council meeting. Many times he would be greeted by one of the editors with this question:

"Well, what happened at the weekly convention of business agents?"

The daily editor's implication was that in the AFL the unions are run by their business agents or other officials, and that the average member doesn't have much to do with it all.

The daily editor in question was greatly interested in labor unions. He believed in them earnestly. He held to a high ideal for them—every member in his opinion should be alert, deeply imbued with trade philosophy, almost religion, and aware in detail of the business of the union. Needless to say, his attitude didn't get expressed in the paper of which he was one of the editors. But his interest in unions, his knowledge of them, and the ideal he had for them was a great source of happiness to the man who covered the labor beat.

★★★

OTHER AGENTS

Fact is, of course, that appointed or elected agents carry on the activities of most institutions. Farmers form a buying or selling co-op, appoint an agent who runs the show. Then there's the farm advisor, or county agent, as he's called in most States, who is appointed by the State college of agriculture, and serves all the farmers of the county. And in a church, even though most of the congregation sincerely believe in the work of that church, you may be sure that most of that work is done by the pastor or by him with assistance of other appointed and hired officials.

So probably there's no good reason for either people inside or outside the labor movement being surprised or pained that so much of a union's activities are carried on by paid officials.

★★★

SUCCESS TRAITS

Most union business agents, or agents of a farmers' group, or even a church group, would recognize in a description of the traits of the new president of Italy some of the qualities that make the agent successful:

"Signor Gronchi is prudent and patient, willing to sacrifice the caustic reply or the elegant phrase for the success of a plan. He has been compared to a racehorse: you will perhaps see him progressing listlessly, tired, as though he had given up the struggle to win. But, a few yards from the finish, he lets loose and wins by a length. And what is most remarkable is that he succeeds without any foam in his mouth."

But probably there's a little foam occasionally!

Merger Here Could Be Made Speedily

The day in December that the AFL and CIO merge on the national level, there's nothing to prevent the AFL and CIO merging on the central council level here.

That was the impression gained by Robert S. Ash, secretary of the AFL Central Labor Council, on his recent trip East to attend the Clerks' international convention and to put in a week of his annual vacation.

The AFL sentiment, evidently shared by the CIO, seemed to be that the two groups could merge the very next day in Alameda county, if they were prepared to do so.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

The following unions will find notices of important meetings called by their officers on page 3 of this issue of the Journal.

JOINT CARPENTERS PICNIC STEAMFITTERS 342

MILLMEN 550

AUTO MACHINISTS 1546

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 16

BERKELEY-PAINTERS 40

HAZARD PAINTERS 1178

PLASTERERS 112

Situation on Culinary Front:

Hayward Culinary Union Gains Pact For South County

Roy Woods, Hayward Bartenders & Culinary Workers reported to the Central Labor Council this week that the union has achieved a very satisfactory contract for the southern end of Alameda county.

Woods said that the last few days had been pretty hectic, with 16 and 17 hour sessions, and with picket signs brought along in the car when the union delegation drove to the last conference with W. J. Dwyer, representing the restaurant owners and tavern keepers.

The contract, effective July 7, is for 5 years, with annual reopenings for wages, and reopening for both wages and fringe benefits in 1958.

Bartenders under the new agreement will receive 90 cents more a day, bringing top pay to \$15.65 a day; but in addition they receive whichever they prefer, an additional dollar a day or a meal. A considerable number are expected to take the cash dollar instead of the meal of the union.

Cooks will get an additional dollar a day, 75 cents immediately and 25 cents January 1: January wages for cooks in Class A places will be \$17.65 a day, and in Class B places \$13.75.

Waitresses will receive 50 cents more per day, bringing their pay to \$6.65; on January 1 they will work only 7½ hours within 8½ now worked. It was this provision which caused much of the last minute intensive bargaining.

All those under the contract will have two paid holidays, Labor Day and Christmas. Formerly they had simply 6 holidays, but not paid unless worked.

Roy Woods is secretary-treasurer of the union, and Floyd Attaway is business representative.

GAW Won by Sugar Stoppage, Corbett

The C & H Sugar Refining Corporation plant at Crockett was getting into full production this week following the settlement achieved last week which ended the strike of AFL Sugar Workers launched June 4.

The settlement includes provision for a guaranteed annual wage.

Other points of the agreement are: a detailed pension plan study by a joint committee; a five cents an hour wage increase beginning Sept. 1; an eighth paid holiday; \$1,000 instead of \$500 home pay for employees of the company paid life insurance for retiring employees; and other minor items.

The guaranteed pay plan provides that the company, in event of a shutdown, will add to state unemployment insurance to equal 65 percent of regular take home pay for employees with more than one year's service. It is one of the first such plans negotiated outside the auto industry.

The supplemental pay would commence on the third week of the shutdown and would be payable through the 27th week of a shutdown.

The company and union have agreed to support legislation changing the California Unemployment Insurance law. The law presently disqualifies employees from unemployment insurance if they receive supplemental pay.

Federal Conciliator George Hillenbrand helped negotiate the settlement.

New Offset Union In Labor Council

Offset Reproduction Artisans Local Union 473, which recently received a charter from the Printing Pressmen & Assistants' International Union, is now affiliated with the Central Labor Council.

Elmer Thorpe, president of the new local union, was obligated as a delegate to the CLC this week by CLC President John F. Quinn.

Frederick Brooks is secretary-treasurer. Brooks is secretary-treasurer of Printing Pressmen & Assistants' International Union, 125 and of Ink & Roller Makers 5.

HOUSE LEADERS put off a final vote on minimum wage legislation to \$1 an hour.

Diamond Renquist Made Secretary of Packing House Local No. 629

Mrs. Diamond Renquist has been appointed secretary-treasurer of Packing House Employees 629, which has its offices in the Pacific building, by the executive board.

Mrs. Renquist succeeds George Nelson, who passed away suddenly some weeks ago. He was attending an arbitration session in Modesto, when feeling indisposed he left the room. He told friends outside the room that he was not feeling well, and they had him lie down. Within a few moments it was obvious that he was very ill, and on arrival at the hospital where he was taken he was pronounced dead.

Mrs. Renquist was vice president of the union and had been assistant to Nelson for several years. Nelson had been, secretary-treasurer since 1946.

Kahn's Will Build Big Branch Store In Concord Center

Negotiations were completed this week for construction of a huge Kahn's branch store in the new Concord Shopping Center now being built by the Concord Investments Corporation.

The announcement was made by John J. Reilly, President of Western Department Stores, which also operates Kahn's in Oakland, Rhodes in Tacoma, Washington, Oids & King in Portland, Oregon, and Rhodes in Sacramento.

"The tremendous growth of Concord and its surrounding communities in the past few years certainly indicates the need of a major department store" said Reilly. "After making thorough surveys of the eastern portion of Contra Costa County, we definitely felt that Concord was an ideal and logical location for us to expand our business."

The negotiations have been prolonged, with uncertainty for some time as to whether it would be necessary to call a strike.

The president of the Joint Board is James Murphy, Bartenders 52; the vice president is Mike Slettum, and the secretary is Badger.

This shopping center, which is located near the Willow Pass Road, and is bounded by Sutter, Harrison, Broadway, and Salvo Streets, is the first specialized shopping center ever built in Concord. The new Kahn's store will have approximately one hundred thousand square feet of shopping area, and will be the largest single unit in the center.

Plans for the new building call for one of contemporary design with such modern features as covered sidewalks to protect shoppers from the weather; and clear glass vistas and display areas to allow a maximum of daylight into the store. There will be two levels . . . a street floor level and an upper level . . . devoted to selling.

"Many of the major stores throughout the country are employing a similar plan of expansion" said Reilly, "and in keeping with this nation-wide trend, Western Department Stores is proud to announce this first branch of Kahn's."

Only recently the firm, which has headquarters in Oakland, announced a branch store which is now being constructed for Oids & King, its store in Portland, Oregon. Details of the deal were handled for the Concord Investment Corporation by Theodore Rhodes. Those representing Kahn's and the Western Department Stores in the transaction were John J. Reilly, J. F. Reilly, Jr., R. L. Childs, and Harold Boggs.

Smith cited to the Congress an example "wherein a so-called buffet car attendant, the sole employee in a dining luncheon car of 32 seats, is not only expected to serve the passengers but also to prepare hot meals."

Powell says that "I am advised that similar conditions obtain in dining car departments on many major railroad lines."

"I am equally disturbed" adds Powell, "by the unequivocal fact that although the various Fair Employment Practice (FEP) laws have struggled with the problem of discrimination against Negro employees, additional legislation is necessary to insure that jobs in all departments and divisions of the railroads are open to colored employees. The policies of most railroad companies are such that jobs outside the departments traditionally filled by Negroes, are closed to Negroes with as much as twenty and thirty years of tenure on the same line.

"With the increased workloads and severe curtailment of dining car crews, unless other branches of the railroad industry are opened to colored employees, the displaced dining car workers, despite their long years of faithful service, will find themselves unemployed."

Typo Conference's Officers Elected

Officers for the coming year were elected by the California Conference of Typographical Unions at a meeting held at Rickey's near Palo Alto July 9.

The following were elected:

President—Duncan Ross
Vice President (reelected)—R. H. Harris
Secretary-Treasurer — Quentin Grimm

Trustees—Kenneth Smith of San Mateo, Walter Moran of Sacramento, Joe Baird of San Francisco, Irv Hammell, Bakersfield.

W. H. Swenson of Sacramento was reelected to represent the conference on the Legislative Committee Board, which is composed of one representative from each of the four printing trades conferences.

CALIFORNIA STATE general fund revenues climbed to a record high of \$859,094,281 for the 1954-1955 fiscal year.

Hundreds Attend Machinist Unions' Open House Party

Open house was held at the new Machinists building, 701 13th street, Oakland, Friday from 1 to 5 in the afternoon and from 7 to 10 in the evening.

Hundreds of friends of the union visited the beautiful new building. Food and refreshments were served.

The property was bought and the building put up by a group of IAM lodges, including District Lodge 115 and Lodges, 284, 1518, 1566, and 1330. There is available space for three tenants.

The total investment was approximately \$180,000. The offices are the ultimate in modernity and ample parking space in the rear was provided for the many visitors.

William Mullin, advertising manager, of East Bay Labor Journal, was present at the open house, and reports as follows:

"Among the Machinist officials I had the pleasure of meeting were Mel Thompson, senior business representative of District Lodge 115, Walter Banks of Lodge 284, John Schiavone of Lodge 1566, Mike Manfredo of Lodge 1518, and Charles Dotson of Lodge 1176.

"There were many representatives of business concerns present also, including F. A. Nichols of Fidens Calculators, Mr. Driscoll of the San Francisco Employers Council, Vice President Earl D. Brodie of Brodie Meters, representative of Irving Subway Grating Company, President R. L. Osborne of the Malabar Manufacturing Company, and many others, not all of whom I had an opportunity to meet at the various times they were there.

"Judge Edward Smith was present, as were Chief of Police Farina of Emeryville, Oakland City Councilman John Holm-dahl, Attorney Knox, and the one and only Sam Blanford of the Machinists and the Democratic Party.

"Needless to say everybody enjoyed their visit and had nothing but praise and warm congratulations for the farsighted International Association of Machinists."

Checkoff at Port Is Not for Unions

A majority of the Port of Oakland Commissioners decided Monday that it's okay to have the checkoff system for a company union or employees' association" but it wouldn't do to let legitimate unions have such a system.

Roberts is so highly respected that the sentiment of the council when he said humorously immediately after Roberts had been nominated:

"The chair moves that the nominations be closed!"

FED DELEGATES

The following were elected delegates to the State Federation of Labor convention in San Diego August 15-19:

Secretary John Davy, Business Representative J. L. Childers.

THAT TEXAS JOB

Childers said he and several business agents had visited a dozen tracts in Washington township, and on some of them had to lay down the law about sanitary requirements for workers.

BY-LAWS REVISION

On motion of Charles Garoni, Linoleum Layers 1290, the council voted to request the Law & Legislative Committee to undertake the revision of the council's by-laws.

SOUND CONSTRUCTION

On motion of Charles Roe, Hayward Carpenters 1622, it was voted to set up a committee to maintain sound construction practices, it being felt that an organized effort was coming in from the southern end of the State to utilize harmful and insufficient methods of building in the big developments springing up in southern Alameda county.

WEST NURSERY

Childers reported that he will check the situation at West Nursery, 13850 East 14th street, Hayward Painters having complained about non-union craftsmen at work there.

CITY OF OAKLAND

Childers said the city of Oakland has put on a union contractor at the job the Cement Masons had complained about recently.

DAVY WIRES CONGRESS

It was announced that Secretary John Davy had wired to Congressmen George P. Miller and John J. Allen Jr. concerning the multimillion dollar highway bill reported out of the House Public Works Committee and containing the Bacon-Davis provision the building trades want. The bill is now before the House Rules Committee, and action is expected soon.

HAGGERTY LETTER

Secretary Davy read a letter from State Fed Secretary C. J. Haggerty commenting on the BTC protest against the Board of Supervisors paying the State Chamber of Commerce for publicizing the county, and said he hoped that the State Chamber might begin to be more conciliatory in its attitude toward labor.

GLAZIERS 169

Ed Parrott, business representative of Electrical Workers, died suddenly early Wednesday morning in a Portland, Oregon, hotel.

Milne, formerly regional vice president here, succeeded the late Dan Tracy as president.

SHEET METAL 216

Lloyd Child, business representative, Sheet Metal 216, submitted the addendum to the contract with the Sheet Metal Contractors Association of Alameda and Contra Costa counties: 7½ cents per hour increase in wages beginning July 1, an

Miller, Pruss,

HOW TO BUY

Points About Funerals

By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS
Labor Consumer Advisor for Labor Journal

On that inevitable day when a family must arrange for a funeral for one of its members, it generally is poorly prepared emotionally or financially for the disturbingly high burial expense with which it is suddenly confronted.

At best, even among reputable funeral establishments, burying the dead is a high-markup business. At worst, there is an unscrupulous fringe of funeral directors who seriously exploit moderate-income families dazed by their tragedy and inexperienced in such arrangements.

Most noticeable abuse is the practice among some undertakers of finding out how much insurance the family got, and then charging accordingly so the insurance is wiped out.

Too, you have to beware of bait advertising in the funeral business just as when you buy a sewing machine, vacuum cleaner or storm windows from a high-pressureless outfit. Some undertakers are known to advertise moderate prices for funerals, but to jack up the price when you come in to make arrangements.

CASKET SETS PRICE

The funeral industry has a peculiar pricing system based on the price of the casket. According to Hollin Everett, one of a group of St. Louis trade unionists who organized a cooperative burial plan there several years ago, the St. Louis unions found that a family that chose the lowest-cost casket at about \$73 got a funeral for \$490. If it chose a \$134 casket, the funeral cost would be about \$780; with a \$462 bronze casket, the funeral bill would be \$1,678. These figures are approximately correct, this writer has learned from his own investigation. But the peculiar thing is that the other services vary little. The funeral director simply makes a progressively higher profit on the family that chooses a more expensive casket.

When your own family has a death, how should you approach this problem? Hollin Everett feels that wage-earners are increasingly vulnerable to the pressure for expensive burials because of the increased insurance benefits they now have through their unions. He recommends that families be educated against "needlessly ornate funerals, especially if they are buying in the open market where costs will pyramid with the price of the casket." He suggests that a good wooden casket or the lower-priced metal ones look very presentable.

ASK QUESTIONS!

Ask the funeral director to explain his prices and what they represent. Don't be reluctant to tell him that there are limiting financial circumstances, and that the complete cost must be within certain limits. After you have determined what the cost will be, see that the funeral director gives you a complete list of the items which he will provide for the funeral and have him sign the list.

Be very wary of buying "burial insurance." The Association of Better Business Bureaus points out that much of the life insurance sold in this country, especially in the lower brackets, is purchased for funeral purposes. But many of these burial policies, which are often paid for by small weekly or monthly payments, actually offer less value than standard life insurance policies, and are much more expensive when you add up the yearly cost.

Speaking of Clothes

Feminine Touch Both charming and inexpensive, jewelry lends the final feminine touch to any outfit.

A good bet for summer is the dramatic chalk white jewelry. One smart idea is a combination rope necklace and adjustable choker, either of which may be worn separately. And if you're really feeling lavish, choose earrings and bracelets to match.

These long necklaces show no sign of losing their popularity, so invest in a rope of pastel beads to match your pretty summer dresses. They may be looped to any length, and make an effective summer accessory.

A smart idea for summer birthday and graduation gifts is a slim chain bracelet with a little date book charm. The book opens so the date may be engraved inside.

Tell 'em you saw it in the East Bay Labor Journal!

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BEST DRINKS IN TOWN

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CARL - MIKE, Owners

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BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL — Paul Jones (Secretary of Committee); James Martin, Lloyd Child, J. H. Kurt, Hugh Rutledge.

JOSEPH W. CHAUDET, General Manager
LOUIS BURGESS, Editor
WILLIAM B. MULLIN, Advertising Manager.

Management Committee
ROBERT S. ASH, LLOYD CHILD, JEFFERY COHEIAN

FROM THE EDITOR

To The Ladies

WAGES HAVE RISEN in all lines for all classes of workers, we usually think.

But Bryn Mawr College has made a study of what salaries its Ph. D. graduates are getting as teachers and professors in the academic world, and finds that whereas in the 1920s they were getting an average of \$5,700 per year, in the 1950s they're getting an average of \$3,900!

If you figured it in terms of pay per hour for 50 40-hour weeks, it means that since the 1920s these women's pay has been cut from the \$2.85 per hour it was 30 years ago to the \$1.95 it is now.

NOT ONLY THAT, but a woman who is an expert on the subject recently reported that while years ago the percentage of women on the faculties of institutions of higher learning was 31 percent, it has now dropped to 25 percent.

In secondary and elementary schools a similar decline in the status of women has been noted. Women are now slightly less than 8% of all the public high school principals. That is practically identical to the proportion of half a century ago.

ARTICLES IN BOTH PAPERS

condemn certain movies, such as the recently made and much advertised "Prodigal" as being complete distortions of the Bible stories, and travesties upon religion.

Philip Scharper, of Fordham University, says, in America,

that such movies are "compounded of ersatz drama and synthetic history," while J. C. Furnas, writing in the Christian Herald, says that "Bible movies run to honky-tonk sex and comic book violence, barely skimming to conclude with a sickly religiosity."

These pictures are not only an affront to the intelligence and religious feeling of adults, but they are seen by all too many children whose unthinking parents feel that anything about the Bible is sure to be ennobling.

Such cynical employment of sacred subjects is surely blasphemous, if anything is!

Hollywood will always be

Hollywood, but sometimes, when things have gone a bit far, protests by papers such as these two, as well as by decent citizens everywhere, surely will help to curb the wild imaginations of these ebullient entertainment mongers.

HIGHER PAY FOR OAKLAND

Firemen Asked by Labor

C. C. Dotson, Tool & Die

Maker Union Manager, Is

Named to School Board

Charles C. Dotson, business manager for IAM Tool & Die Makers Lodge 1176 of the Bay Area, with offices in the Pacific building, Oakland, has been appointed to the Millbrae Elementary School District Board of Trustees in San Mateo county.

Dotson, originally from West Virginia, has been in California for 16 years and a resident of Millbrae for 10 years. His wife, Maryam is active in P-TA. Mr. and Mrs. Dotson have two children, 11-year-old Cheryl and 3-year-old Lynn.

Dotson, a veteran of World War II, is a member of American Legion Post 417. His service included action in both the Pacific and European theaters. In addition to various civic activities, Dotson acts as advisor to the Adult Education Departments of both the Oakland City Schools and the San Francisco Schools in the apprentice training field.

Fortunately, most of the combination fabrics are clearly labeled "washable" or "this garment should be dry cleaned" and let us hope that the growing disregard for the individual consumer in some government departments will not deprive housewives of this vital information.

Save all descriptive tags on garments of the fabric content.

Frequently they include suggestions on laundering. If in doubt about a fabric, ask the clerk for information before buying.

When the time comes to launder, check the tag for the percentage of synthetic in the garment.

It should be higher than a natural fiber, like cotton, if it is to dry quickly and to require no ironing, or a minimum.

All of the synthetics can be washed safely in lukewarm to warm water and mild detergent suds.

The white articles should be washed separately, especially those of all-nylon; use a bluing rinse, rather than a bleach, for nylon which has "gone gray."

Heavily soiled items, like synthetic curtains or slacks or suits,

can be washed in automatic washers, if directions are followed carefully. However, if there is any doubt about the results (frequently the swirling of a washer makes drying without ironing a myth), it may be more satisfactory to hand-wash suits and dresses made of synthetic fabrics. Use a soft brush for the deepest soil areas like neck bands, pockets and cuffs.

These long necklaces show no sign of losing their popularity, so invest in a rope of pastel beads to match your pretty summer dresses. They may be looped to any length, and make an effective summer accessory.

A smart idea for summer birthday and graduation gifts is a slim chain bracelet with a little date book charm. The book opens so the date may be engraved inside.

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Women in This World

By EDITH McCONN

ONE OF THE TEN commandments says "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

In our youth we were taught that this meant we shouldn't use certain "swear words" containing the name of the Deity. This was blasphemy, a mortal sin.

A new kind of blasphemy seems to have grown up in Hollywood, however, according to America, a Roman Catholic Weekly, and the Christian Herald, a leading Protestant monthly.

Articles in both papers condemn certain movies, such as the recently made and much advertised "Prodigal" as being complete distortions of the Bible stories, and travesties upon religion.

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Steamfitters' Picnic Is Big Success

By JIM MARTIN

This union's annual picnic was held last Sunday at Knowland Park in East Oakland. There was quite a large turnout at this picnic. Chairman Bennie Gosney and his Committee did a very nice job in providing first class entertainment, food and beverages, which were enjoyed by all. On behalf of the officers of this local union we wish to thank the Picnic Committee for a job well done.

Final arrangements are being made by the United Association for the second Annual National Apprenticeship Contest to be held at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, from August 15 to August 4, 1955.

Dressing Room Chatter**Chew, Ex-Officer Theater Union, Weds**

By JOE CONNELLY

Former member Eddy Chew, who at one time was a well known figure around the Paramount Theater, is in the mail with a wedding announcement. The bride is the former Gladys Yee. The ceremony was held last Sunday in the chapel of the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour in Oakland. The newly weds are touring parts of California and stopped in King City to send us the happy tidings.

Eddy served as vice-president of the local at one time, and is presently connected with the United Crusade public relations department . . . Diane Catson of the Lux, spending her vacation in Long Beach . . . Betty Monroe of the Fox-Oakland in and out of the hospital . . . Assistant manager Gordon Stoddard of the same house leaving the keys in his parked Cadillac and returning to find both the keys and the car gone . . . George Ehey has moved from the door to the official assistant managerial spot at the Roxie. This is the second time since 1937 that the assistant's berth has been declared official, although some doormen in the past gave themselves the title without benefit of the home office approval . . . Juanita Morris is the new head usherette at the same house, having replaced Virginia Reedy Sanderson, who is now at the T & D . . . Joe Cassell slated to enter the hospital last Tuesday. Joe last worked regularly at the Sands Ball Room door . . . Former member Nellie Anderson Nelson, now retired but available for vacation relief work as a matron . . . Last week saw the revival of the rumor that the Orpheum would reopen, but to date we have discovered no concrete basis for the story . . . Remember to keep track of your hours as our agreement with the employers calls for retroactive pay to March 1st expiration date of the old contract . . . Final union meeting of the month scheduled for tomorrow at 10 a.m. (23rd) . . . Lawrence Verdugo, formerly of the Broadway, in to take a withdrawal . . . The union business office assisting Brother Gerald Hill in his appeal before the Unemployment Insurance Act referee, for disqualifying him for 5 weeks unemployment insurance.

That 'Well Publicized' Boost in Jobless Pay, Discussed by Editor

Mrs. Clara Shirpser, Democratic national committeewoman for California, has notified the Central Labor Council that Matthew McCloskey, treasurer of the Democratic national committee, will be honored guest at a dinner to be held at 7 p.m. July 26 at the Athens Club, 12th and Clay streets, Oakland.

Here's a News Item For Food Clerks 870 Folks

Associated Press recently reported that a man was browsing through a supermarket. The company's courtesy campaign was on. A cashier asked if she could help. He wanted to know where the can openers were kept. She showed him.

He went to the soup counter, selected a can, opened it, drank it, put the can opener back, went back to the cashier, paid for the soup—and asked the cashier to dispose of the empty can.

DENTAL PLATES
NO MONEY DOWN

Please PAY NOTHING FOR 6 MONTHS
ON APPROVED CREDIT
21 MONTHS TO PAY

Be Thrifty . . . Save With VERY LOW PRICES . . .

Come in Now, No Appointment Needed

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**Joint Carpenters' Picnic**

The Alameda County Joint Carpenters' Picnic will be held Sunday, July 24, at Linda Vista Park, near Mission San Jose.

ENTERTAINMENT: DANCING, SWIMMING, RACES.

The Carpenter's Picnic Committee invites all union men and families to attend and enjoy what we think will be one of the outstanding picnics of the year. Come and really enjoy yourselves.

Ticket 50 cents, children free.

To reach Linda Vista Park take Niles highway to Mission San Jose. The park is just outside of town. Hope to see you all!

Yours fraternally,
JOINT CARPENTERS' PICNIC COMMITTEE**Steamfitters 342**

Effective immediately there will be one membership meeting a month for the months of July, August and September. The Executive Board will meet the first and third Thursdays during these months. Charges for non-attendance of meetings will not be made for these months.

Our next meeting will be held August 4.

Fraternally yours,
JAMES MARTIN,
Business Manager and
Financial Secretary**Millmen 550**

Members are reminded that the annual Carpenters Picnic will be held at Linda Vista, near Mission San Jose, Sunday, July 24; and that this union, Millmen's Local 550, is an affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and that accordingly this Carpenters Picnic is an ideal recreational outing for our members and their families are welcome to attend.

Yours fraternally,
EMIL H. OVENBERG, Financial Secretary
JOHN TOEDT, Recording Secretary
ANTHONY L. RAMOS, Business Representative**To All Members of East Bay Automotive Machinists 1546**

You are herewith officially notified that Lodge 1546 meets in regular session on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the hour of 8:00 P.M. in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, 12, California.

Meeting hall will be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the temple and you are herewith officially requested to be at attendance.

Fraternally,
A. J. HAYES,
Recording Secretary**Painters, District Council 16**

To all members of House Painters Local Unions: The Bay Area Painters Welfare Program will be open for changes to become effective September 1, 1955. Any and all members desiring changes in the program to be made must have such desired changes submitted through their Local Union and in the hands of the trustees of the Bay Area Painters Welfare Fund by July 30, 1955.

Fraternally yours,
LESLIE K. MOORE,
Secretary Treasurer of the District Council of Painters No. 16**Berkeley Painters Local 40**

Our next meeting, Friday night, July 22, will be a SPECIAL CALLED MEETING for the purpose of voting on the retention of the Smith & Parrish Plan. This Plan has been of great benefit to our members so please make every effort to attend.

This will serve to notify the members of this Local that effective August 1, the premium of \$1.30 per \$1,000 Life Insurance will be raised to \$1.35 per \$1,000.

Fraternally,
BEN RASNICK,
Recording Secretary**Hayward Painters 1178**

As far as we know now the next meeting of the Local dated Friday August 5 will be of the regular order. However watch the columns of the Journal for any possible special called meeting for that date.

There will be a discussion of the merits of a new life insurance policy coming from the Tri-State Insurance Company underwritten by the California Western States Insurance Co.

Bro. Andrew G. Swanson, running against two other Brothers was elected as our Delegate to the State Federation Convention to be held in San Diego beginning August 19.

Fraternally yours,
ROBERT G. MILLER,
Recording Secretary**Plasterers 112**Fraternally yours,
GEORGE WHITTON,
Secretary-Treasurer

Special called meeting Thursday, August 4 to discuss financial standing of the Local and consider possible recommendations regarding the same.

'Private Enterprise Is Not Supplying Housing For Low Income Groups'

Testimony against public housing for low income families given by the National Association of Real Estate Boards before committees of Congress was answered by Public Housing Commissioner Charles E. Slusser at the Public Housing Conference in Washington. Commissioner Slusser said in part:

The National Association of Real Estate Boards maintains that "public housing is unnecessary because of the high volume of home construction since the close of World War II and the continuing marked reduction in the number of low income persons since 1946 . . ."

Garden-type apartment projects and suburban subdivisions far removed from the centers of usual employment scarcely meet the housing needs of low-income families.

The number of low-income families may now be diminishing, but NAREB's figures, or any others available, do not indicate that by any foreseeable date will low-income families completely vanish.

Families who lose their wage earners, whose natural endowment, environment, and income is well below normal, are going to still need decent housing. Up to the present they have found it only in public housing.

Where private enterprise is unable to provide the home that gives dignity and a sense of pride to an American family of low income, then the Federal Government, working through private enterprise, should help fulfill this need.

As Public Housing Commissioner, I hold that the provision of good housing at reasonable cost is the proper function of private enterprise. When private enterprise demonstrates conclusively that it can do the job, then will we say "God-speed," and step out of the picture. That just isn't the case today.

On Stage With Local 107

Some Stage Hands Now on Vacation

By HOWARD GOSS

Missed last week's column because the mountain air and beautiful Yuba river in Nevada County were so nice that I couldn't get back in time.

The Everett Kings took a jaunt through the same country winding up in Reno. The weather wasn't so good and he wound up with a cold id da head.

The Forrest Bradleys spent two weeks camping near Burney. They came back for a few days and are taking off for the hills again.

After many long days and nights spent repainting and rebuilding their new house in San Lorenzo the Howard Bottorffs are finally moved-in and settled. About time for a party, Howard? Noticed a bright red Coca Cola ice bag amid the confusion at the old homestead—are you the one?

Congratulations to Eddie Hansen, Local 107's newest member. Take it easy, Ed, the first three years are the hardest.

For those who "never get a notice" the increase in dues and assessments carried. As Mel Moyer says "never go down, always go up"—except for phone bills, Mel?

Yours fraternally,

JOHN TOEDT, Recording Secretary

ANTHONY L. RAMOS, Business Representative

Businessman Likes CLC Stand Against Discount Houses

"East Bay Unioners, We Salute You!" are the closing words of an article by Ed Wimmer, vice president of the National Federation of Independent Business, Inc., praising the Alameda County Central Labor Council for taking a stand against discount houses.

The article appeared in a newspaper a clipping from which was sent East Bay Labor Journal from Cincinnati, Ohio, but the name of the paper was missing.

Wimmer has the name of the Labor Council wrong, but his heart is in the right place. Here's what he said:

The East Bay Labor Council of Oakland, California, has urged all its members to "discontinue membership in Discount Houses." The Resolution stated that "discount houses are a detriment to all unions and their members."

This should come as a big surprise to most union leaders and their members who have lived under the false impression that cheap prices over the counter counter are good for workers and for the national economy, no matter who gets hurt. It should also be a surprise to those business leaders who keep maintaining that "union leaders and organized workers won't take steps to protect their future no matter how many facts are laid before them."

Discount house promoters have told me, in fact, that the biggest sucker for the "get it at wholesale" come-on, is the so-called "smart" member of a labor union who never calls a fellow union member when he wants his house painted or his plumbing fixed. My answer has always been, "lack of economic education; lack of understanding of the economic forces which govern our standard of living."

Right?

Result, just the other day: \$75,000 libel judgment against O. W. White, publisher, and Thomas McHugh, editor, of the sheetlet.

Howard denied he had ever had any Commie leanings.

The editor said at the trial that he had never accused Howard of being a Commie, but was merely asking a question!

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East Bay Labor Journal

1622 EAST 12th STREET
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JULY 22, 1955

OPINIONS

TEACHER AGREES WITH MISS M'CONN ON ROAD LITTER

Editor, Labor Journal:
In your June 24 issue, I was more than pleased to see the item on page 2 by Edith McConn. Preserving old landmarks and keeping highways clean are hobbies dear to my heart.

I am enclosing a letter I wrote to Governor Knight on these subjects. Maybe you could add your voice to mine. Others are writing to the Chronicle about these needs. In about ten years if we all keep on, there will be a noticeable change. I'm sure.

I'm glad you have a nice, new office. Cordially,
JOYCE E. LOBNER

Following is a portion of the letter sent by Joyce E. Lobner, a member of the AFL Teachers Union, to Governor Knight:

On a recent trip to the Sierra, my sister and I picnicked in Bliss Park on the shores of Lake Tahoe. My Mother went to school with Mr. Bliss' daughter, so I have been very interested in the Park made of his gift of land to our State. Being a Californian, I took great pride in finding this Park so beautifully laid out and kept so clean.

Along the highways things are not always so clean. Rubbish, particularly beer cans, make an unsightly and disgusting detraction from all the natural beauty. Now here is my suggestion: Could not KQED or some other channel put on a show as follows:

1. Beautiful highway, which has not been marred by any careless citizen throwing trash out of his car.

2. Picnickers or auto passengers dump their refuse along the road.

3. Other tourists come to the place and are horrified by the mess.

4. State employees collect garbage Monday morning along the highway (as I have seen them doing) with a statement as to the expense this service is to the taxpayer.

If this program, with variations, were televised once a week for a while, it might help curb this nuisance.

THEY PHONED?

Three union officials involved in an organizing drive among New York drug stores, were arraigned in General Sessions Court. The charge: they tied up store telephones during rush hours by making constant non-business calls into the firms—Labor's Daily.

CHRISTIAN

As to moral and spiritual life, Christianity is the fundamental religion of the United States, and I have noticed that through this religion the people are devoting themselves to purifying their spirits and living honest lives. — Major Jiro Tokuyama, writing from Tokyo to Christian Science Monitor.

TWO GENIUSES

In my opinion the two greatest men we ever had in sports were Mister McGraw and Knute Rocke. Each as a pure genius and no one else came close.—Edie Brannick, secretary of the New York Giants.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
One of the country's best labor reporters after years of covering and writing about union activities for the daily newspapers, has decided that labor is the least public relations conscious group in the country. This reporter points out that union members take adverse publicity constantly without making much, if any effort to counteract it with favorable publicity. —Gordon H. Cole, editor of the Machinist Weekly.

SWOONERS

Most of the leaders of organized labor are ready to swoon at the feet of any Republican who gives them so much as a friendly nod. Rank and file are confused when they see their leaders off on a tangent chasing a Republican.—Summit County Journal, Breckinridge, Colorado.

LOHOLE

Another loophole has turned up in last year's tax bill, and again it is in favor of corporations. So far they haven't found a single loophole for me, darn it! How about you?—Valley Labor Citizen (Fresno).

FARM EMPLOYMENT in California continued to decrease last week. Various early harvests tapered off while the lack of hot weather delayed full activity on other operations which should be flourishing by now.

EDITORIALS

Carpenters at Six-Bits a Day

Lem Flanigan, Carpenters 36, a delegate to the Building Trades Council, told his brother delegates recently about a town in Oklahoma where a school building, condemned many years ago, is finally going to be rebuilt. So the school board got hold of a contractor who paid the carpenters a dollar a day, and work got started.

But taxpayers in the area complained to the school board that a dollar a day was mighty high wages to be paying, so it was decided to cut the wage to six-bits a day. However, even in that non-union area, this seemed too little, so now work is dragging on the project because it's hard to get men.

Flanigan's story was told the same night that BTC Business Representative J. L. Childers had reported on finding four men working on a wrecking job in the Alameda Housing Project who had been brought up from Texas by a fellow Texan who paid their fare here and said he would pay their fare home. These men told Childers they were getting a dollar a day for a 10-hour day, and that the man who imported them supplied them with a place to sleep in; they were not supposed to take more than one drink of water in the forenoon, and another in the afternoon, so that very little working time would be wasted. But they told Childers it was better to get a dollar a day than the 75 cents they had been getting in Texas.

Jack Faber, Cooks, 228, told the Central Labor Council recently that the wages in Phoenix, which he recently visited, are very low, that the conduct of a strike is extremely difficult there because of repressive anti-labor legislation. Arizona is one of the 18 States which has passed the compulsory open shop law, or the "right to work" law as its advocates elegantly call it.

More than one union official here recently has given warning that we in California need not assume that the conditions described in Oklahoma, Texas, and Arizona will always be marvels far off for us to gape at. They could arrive here if we go to sleep, or continue to sleep, as some of us are doing. The recent experiences of the building trades in the towns of our own big valley are not too reassuring.

One tough repressive law could undo the work of years in building up decent pay and conditions through unionism. Yet the amount of money that California subscribes to the AFL Labor League for Political Education is pitifully small. It was pitifully small even before the attempt began to make the California AFL a mere stump of a tail to be wagged by the GOP elephant ridden by Goody Knight. In fact, that scheme never could have been sold to the California AFL in the first place to the extent that it has been sold if our unions had been more alert politically.

Fortunately the attempt to tie the California AFL to the tail of Senator Kuchel's little elephant seems to be failing. But it will take more than one good negative action, or even two good negative actions, such as prying loose from both Kuchel and Knight, representatives of the anti-labor elements in our society, to save California labor from the 75-cent per day possibility. We need positive action too, positive political action.

"Waterfront Priest"

"Waterfront Priest," a recent book by Allen Raymond, is about Father Corridan of the St. Francis Xavier Labor School, and his efforts to disentangle the mess in which the New York waterfront workers find themselves as the result of the long years of misrule by officials of the International Longshoremen's Association, which was expelled from the AFL only after George Meany took the helm.

Labor's Daily describes the book as follows:

"Here in full detail is the story of close ties between the shipping and stevedoring employers, the International Longshoremen's Association, expelled by the AFL, and officials in New York and other cities which make up the harbor. Under this alliance, organized thievery, estimated at a value of \$60 million a year in 1946, has been only one of the lucrative rackets; and more than 100 unsolved murders have been committed since 1928."

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, Federal Court, the Government is making its umpteenth attempt to deport Harry Bridges, the man who got his big opportunity to win control of the Bay Area waterfront because of the unsavory operations of this same old International Longshoremen's Association in the days when it flourished on this coast. Talk about locking the barn after the horse is stolen! If labor cleaned out its crooks fast enough the Government would never have to prosecute the likes of Bridges in an effort to pry them out of strategic positions they should never have been let near in the first place.

We of labor can remind the public till we're blue in the face that most unions are honestly run, which is the plain truth, but so long as we are too long suffering in the presence of such shenanigans as the ILA carried on for years we are going to suffer in public esteem.

Two Pillboxes Surrendered

On the political battlefield General Eisenhower has lately surrendered two pillboxes, Hobby and Dixon-Yates.

Mrs. Hobby, co-publisher of a big newspaper deep in the heart of that little old Texas, was so ill-informed, so out of touch with the news, that she didn't know in advance that the public would be so interested in a vaccine to rescue children from the horrors of polio.

The Dixon-Yates crowd didn't know that there is still in the U. S., despite all assurances to the contrary from reactionary newspapers, a strong public opinion opposing public power being sabotaged on the ground that it is "creeping Socialism."

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San Lorenzo
A COMPLETE DEPT. STORE
for the entire family
6 MONTH
BUDGET PLAN
NO CITY SALES TAX
YOUR DOLLAR
BUYS MORE!

BOOST THE LABEL!

BUY UNION LABEL PRODUCTS ONLY

When making purchases always ask for the union label. If building a home or repairing one see that the men doing the plumbing or steamfittering work, painting job, etc., belong to the union. Ask to see their Card. Boost the union emblem and help yourself. Patronize and demand the following union cards:

REQUEST THIS
LABEL
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COUNCIL
EAST BAY CITIES

ON ALL YOUR
PRINTING

LOOK FOR THE EMBLEM
FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS
COMMISSION

UNION
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